

ANNUAL REPORT

—of the—

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Superintendent of Schools

and Supervisors

—of the—

Town of Southbridge

—for the —

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1933

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS PRINTING COMPANY,
SOUTHBRIDGE, MASS.



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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS is published to give to the citizens of Southbridge information regarding the operation of their schools. The report attempts to give an idea of any changes that may have occurred and the reasons therefor; reports of the various department heads; recommendations for future progress; financial data; information as to pupils and teachers; etc. The information regarding costs should receive particular attention this year. In connection with school costs, it should be noted that, because of the schools, a large amount of money is annually received by the Town Treasurer. (See "Receipts Returned to Town Treasurer"). In 1933, for instance, the cost of the schools to the Town was lowered by such receipts to the amount of \$38,788.66.



ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE—1933-1934

Hector M. LeClair, chairman, 139 Hartwell St. --	1934
Wardwell M. Edwards, 121 Hamilton St. -----	1934
George B. Wells, Eastford Rd. -----	1935
Pierre LaFortune, 27 Chestnut St. -----	1935
George W. Dumas, 160 Sayles St. -----	1936
J. Arthur Genereux, Newell Ave. -----	1936

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Arthur E. Pierce, residence: 55 Columbus Ave., Tel. 1360

Office: High School Building: Tel. 365

The Superintendent's office is open on school days from 8:00 to 11:30 A. M. and 1:30 to 5:00 P. M. Saturdays: 8:00 to 11:30 A. M. Monday and Wednesday evenings: 7:00 to 7:30 P. M.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CLERK

Leona V. LaFortune, 27 Chestnut St., Tel. 496-M

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

Dr. Charles Simpson, 186 Hamilton St. Tel. 326

SCHOOL NURSE

Winifred V. King, 35 South St. Tel. 13-M

SUPERVISOR OF ATTENDANCE

Margaret G. Butler, 29 Marcy St., Tel. 615-W

SCHOOL CALENDAR—1934

Winter term, eight weeks, January 3-February 21.

Spring term, seven weeks, March 5-April 27.

Summer term, eight weeks, May 7-June 22.

Fall term, sixteen weeks, September 5-December 21.

NO-SCHOOL SIGNALS

1-1-1 on fire alarm at 7:45 A. M.—No morning session for the first six grades.

2-2-2 on fire alarm at 7:45 A. M.—No morning session for any grade.

1-1-1 on fire alarm at 12:45—No afternoon session for the first six grades.

2-2-2 on fire alarm at 12:30—No afternoon session for any grade.

Even if there has been no morning session, there will be an afternoon session unless the afternoon signals are blown.

IN MEMORIAM

Bertha F. Clark

A Member of the School Committee

From 1927 to 1930



REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE

To the Citizens of Southbridge:

The School Committee herewith submits the following report of the finances of the School Department of the Town for the year closing December 31, 1933. As to all matters connected with the policy and management of the schools, the Committee refers to the report of the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Arthur E. Pierce, which is hereby submitted as a part of our report:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In brief:

Total expenditures -----	\$169,010.83
Contributions by staff -----	18,846.66
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Net expenditures -----	\$150,164.17
Total receipts returned to Town Treasurer	38,788.66
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Net Cost to the Town -----	\$111,375.51
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In detail:

Receipts to School Department:

Appropriation -----	\$148,294.00
Smith-Hughes Fund, U. S. Government	1,945.58
Contributions by staff -----	18,846.66
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Total funds available -----	\$169,086.24
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Expenditures:

General Control -----	\$5,920.66
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AUXILIARY AGENCIES:

Transportation salaries ---	\$1,888.80
Bus tickets -----	2,087.00
Tuition to other schools --	26.40

Total—Auxiliary Agencies	4,002.20
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HIGH SCHOOL:

Instruction salaries -----	\$33,075.41
Instruction expenses:	
Textbooks -----	952.70
Supplies -----	1,249.85
Other expenses -----	147.05
Operation of plant -----	4,939.88
Maintenance of plant -----	1,152.48
Capital outlay -----	644.64

Total—High School ---	42,162.01
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Amount forward -----	\$52,084.87
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ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Instruction salaries -----	\$60,856.13
Instruction expenses:	
Textbooks -----	3,609.01
Supplies -----	1,431.49
Other expenses -----	20.10
Operation of plant -----	10,825.90
Maintenance of plant -----	1,146.72
Capital outlay -----	289.14
Rent -----	2,040.00

Total—Elementary Schools	80,218.49
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VOCATIONAL SCHOOL:

Instruction salaries -----	\$21,125.10	
Instruction expenses:		
Textbooks -----	28.78	
Supplies -----	1,046.38	
Other expenses -----	106.28	
Operation of plant -----	2,487.58	
Maintenance of plant -----	151.24	
Capital Outlay -----	876.06	
	<hr/>	
Total—Vocational School ..		25,821.42

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE:

Salary -----	\$700.00	
Other expenses -----	111.45	
	<hr/>	
Total—Compulsory Attendance -		811.45

MEDICAL SERVICE:

Salary -----	\$1,000.00	
	<hr/>	
Total—Medical Service ----		1,000.00

NURSE SERVICE:

Salary -----	\$1,428.25	
Other expenses -----	78.04	
	<hr/>	
Total—Nurse Service ----		1,506.29

DOMESTIC SCIENCE:

Salaries -----	\$3,100.00	
Books -----	22.91	

Supplies -----	160.46	
Maintenance -----	169.45	
Capital Outlay -----	4.90	
	<hr/>	
Total—Domestic Science --		3,457.72

MUSIC:

Salary -----	\$1,633.50	
Other expenses --	31.20	
	<hr/>	
Total — Music -----		1,664.70
	<hr/>	
Amount forward -----		\$166,564.94

SHOP:

Instruction salaries -----	\$2,000.00	
Supplies -----	267.38	
Maintenance -----	4.80	
Capital outlay -----	40.83	
	<hr/>	
Total — Shop -----		2,313.01

CONTINUATION SCHOOL:

Supplies -----	\$72.88	
	<hr/>	
Total—Continuation School		72.88

HOUSEHOLD ARTS:

Supplies -----	\$60.00	
	<hr/>	
Total — Household Arts --		60.00
Total Expenditures -----		\$169,010.83

Contributions by staff -----	18,846.66
Net Expenditures -----	150,164.17
Balance on hand December 31, 1933 -----	75.41
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	\$150.239.58

RECEIPTS RETURNED TO TOWN TREASURER

Massachusetts School Fund -----	\$12,296.00
Vocational School (Coop.) State Grant ----	8,623.59
Vocational School (Day) State Grant ----	915.59
Smith-Hughes U. S. Gov. Fund -----	1,945.58
High School Tuition -----	7,797.04
Elementary School Tuition -----	287.50
Vocational School Tuition -----	2,442.00
Bus Tickets Sold -----	14.00
Books and Supplies Sold -----	4.30
Use of Auditorium -----	33.00
Continuation School, State -----	2,224.93
Evening Vocational School, State -----	1,713.13
Cole Trade School, goods sold -----	267.31
Manual Arts Department, goods sold -----	60.95
Worcester Boys' Evening Trade School Tui- tion, State -----	5.40
Worcester Girls' Trade School Tuition, State	70.84
Worcester Day Household Arts School Tui- tion, State -----	87.50
Total Receipts Returned to Town Treas...	<hr/>
	\$38,788.66
Total Expenditures -----	\$150,164.17
Total Receipts Returned to Town Treasurer	38,788.66
Net Cost to the Town -----	<hr/>
	111,375.51

The Committee wishes to again point out the wretched and overcrowded building situation. It cannot emphasize too strongly the need for added school facilities. A way should be found for the Town to take advantage of the opportunity to secure Federal Aid, as other cities and towns, all over the country, have taken advantage of. Any co-operation with the Committee would be welcomed.

THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER AS IT WILL AFFECT EACH AND EVERY TAXPAYER FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS.

The GROSS COST of schools for 1933 was the LOWEST since 1926 and the NET COST the LOWEST since 1924, in spite of the fact that there has been an INCREASE of about 500 pupils since 1924. This low cost is due, of course, to the elimination of certain departments and to the donations made by the teachers. It is obvious that the curtailment of services has crippled the educational offering. It is impossible for your Committee to maintain an efficient teaching force with present salary conditions, as Southbridge is much lower than other communities of its size and well below the State average.

It is sincerely hoped that no further savings will be made at the expense of the children.

The Committee again goes on record as opposing present salary conditions and favor a return to the normal salary schedule.

The efficiency of the schools depends upon efficient teachers and a good teacher morale.

The Committee wishes to publicly express its appreciation for the professional way in which the school

staff has carried on its work in the face of reduced salaries and increasingly difficult working conditions, and to commend that staff for its attitude of service.

Respectfully submitted,

HECTOR M. LECLAIR,

Chairman

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

To the School Committee of Southbridge:

Dear Sirs:

I present herewith my third annual report, it being the forty-ninth of the series of reports issued by the superintendents of the public schools of this town.

I.—The Educational Offering.

In many respects the school staff has been able to make improvements in some of our offerings during the past year. All teachers are and have been on various subject committees that have studied and worked to select good textbooks and to better organize the courses. For instance, all rooms are now supplied with a partial set of health books and regular health education is being given. Further work is being done to improve the course and help is being given by the State Department of Health. A regular course in physical education should be established as soon as possible.

Some departments of the work have not been so fortunate. The evening schools have been dropped as has the drawing supervisor. The loss of the evening schools means that those persons who were not fortunate enough to complete their education before having to go to work can now get no further training in their own community. Foreign born persons cannot now get instruction in English or in the material needed by them to qualify for citizenship. I sincerely hope that our 1934 appropriation will provide for the large group of people who need the evening schools.

Several changes and improvements have been made in the High School curricula. They are taken up in the report of the High School Principal, Mr. Greene.

The work of the Grammar School has been departmentalized. Each teacher now specializes in one or two subjects rather than teaching all that are offered. This opportunity to center her attention enables her to better prepare and present the work. The children receive a further benefit in their contact with several teachers and the opportunity to become acquainted with the High School procedure of passing from one room to another.

In the Trade School, and in the Domestic Science and Shop departments increased efforts are being made to offer work within the scope of their ability and interest to those pupils who find academic work especially difficult. Southbridge, according to law, should have special opportunity classes for those children. Even if there were no such law, the classes should be established, both to care for the retarded children, and, also, to allow the teachers to spend a proper proportion of their time on those children who can benefit by the regular school work. Such classes cannot be formed until increased school space is available.

In connection with this discussion of the improvement of the educational offering, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and commendation to the teaching staff for its excellent work and co-operation. Especially to be commended is the spirit that leads so many of the teachers to spend of their money, time and effort in taking professional improvement courses. Between September, 1932, and September, 1933, sixty percent of the teachers had taken one or more university courses. At present 46 of them are enrolled in a course, "Modern Theories and Practices in Education," being given in Southbridge by Professor Robert Collier of Boston University. Southbridge children should reap increased educational advantages from this work.

II.—Hearing Tests.

The sight and hearing of each school child must, by law, be tested each year. The tests as ordinarily administered in the schools are superficial and detect only the worst defects. This year, through the generosity of a group of Southbridge citizens, we have been able to secure the services of the Worcester League for the Hard of Hearing to give audiometer tests to each child. A more complete report of this work will be found in the report of the School Nurse.

III.—Maintenance of Buildings.

During the past few years very little money has been spent on the upkeep and repair of the school buildings. Much of this work can no longer be postponed without serious results. Our budget for 1934 mus., therefore, include an increased amount for this work.

Fortunately we are getting a considerable amount of painting done under C. W. A. funds. The exterior of the High School and, we hope, the interior, the auditorium, the exterior and interior of the Marcy Elementary, the Mechanic Street and the River Street Schools and the exterior of the Cole Trade School will have been painted before the work is complete. This painting has been badly needed both to protect the walls and to improve appearance. The Town will have had to bear only the cost of about three-fourths of the material.

IV.—Overcrowded conditions.

The School Committee has repeatedly pointed out the need for increased school facilities. This need cannot be too often or too strongly emphasized. The unhygienic and crowded conditions under which many of our children are working are unquestionably detrimental to their educational and physical welfare.

In closing, I wish to express sincere appreciation for the help and co-operation that has been extended to the schools and to me during the past year. The community as a whole and many of its public and private agencies have been most helpful. I am especially indebted to the principals and teachers and to the School Committee.

The statistical report follows.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR E. PIERCE.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Throughout this report the year relative to attendance extends from September, 1932, to July, 1933; the year relative to expenditures from January 1, 1933, to January 1, 1934.

I.—POPULATION AND VALUATION

Population of Town, census of 1930 -----	14,262
Assessed valuation of Town -----	\$12,714,213
Number of polls, male -----	4,407
Rate of taxation -----	\$33.00
Valuation of school houses and lots -----	\$557,400.00
Valuation of other school property -----	\$45,000.00

II.—SCHOOL HOUSES

Number houses—occupied 12, unoccupied 1
 Schoolrooms—occupied 67, unoccupied 1

III.—TEACHERS

Number of male teachers -----	13
Number of female teachers -----	60
	—
	73

IV.—PUPILS

Number of children in Town October 1, as reported
by the census enumerator:

	1932	1933
Between the ages of 5 and 16 -----	3283	3337
Between the ages of 5 and 7 -----	503	473
Between the ages of 7 and 14 -----	2166	2186
Between the ages of 14 and 16 -----	614	678
Total enrollment PUBLIC SCHOOLS --	2029	2061
Average membership -----	1941	1966
Average daily attendance -----	1867	1889
Number between 5 and 7 -----	198	177
Number between 7 and 14 -----	1195	1188
Number between 14 and 16 -----	429	454
Number over 16 years of age ----	207	242
Number enrolled at NOTRE DAME ---	654	728
Number between 5 and 7 -----	102	190
Number between 7 and 14 -----	529	472
Number between 14 and 16 -----	23	66
Number over 16 years of age ----	0	0
Average membership -----	613	671
Average attendance -----	604	671
Number of teachers -----	12	14
Number enrolled at SACRED HEART ---	466	477
Number between 5 and 7 -----	57	154
Number between 7 and 14 -----	377	323
Number between 14 and 16 -----	32	0
Number over 16 years of age ----	0	0
Average membership -----	437	459
Average attendance -----	409	433
Number of teachers -----	9	9
Number enrolled at ST. MARY'S-----	213	213
Number between 5 and 7 -----	56	25
Number between 7 and 14 -----	96	148
Number between 14 and 16 -----	29	20

Number over 16 years of age ----	32	20
Average membership -----	206	203
Average attendance -----	195	191
Number of teachers -----	8	8

COST PER PUPIL

Total expenses for the grades -----	\$81,035.15
Cost per pupil based on total enrollment ---	55.43
Cost per pupil based on average membership	56.79
Total expenses for High School -----	41,023.83
Cost per pupil based on total enrollment --	68.95
Cost per pupil based on average membership	76.25
Average per-pupil cost for all pupils—total enrollment -----	59.34
Average per-pupil cost for all pupils—average membership -----	62.12

PHYSICAL TESTS

Children examined 1,965	Eyes defective 148
Children examined 1,914	Ears defective 138
Parents notified 286	

CHANGE OF TEACHERS—Resigned

January	Ralph Mead	Cole Trade School
June	Veronica Roycroft	Domestic Science
June	Mary E. Butler	Grade I
June	Mary Ellis	Grade I
June	Eliza Beighe	Grade II
June	Blanche LaFerriere	Grade VI
October	Beatrice Bousquet	Grade VII

APPOINTED

January	Herman M. Polley	Cole Trade School
September	Alice L. Atkins	Domestic Science
September	Clara Hefner	High
September	Ethel T. Kidd	High
September	Neil C. Robinson	High
September	Evelyn Jackson	Grade II
September	Ellen Stowers	Grade II
September	Marjorie D. Fitch	Grade VI
September	Nathalie Morey	Sandersdale
October	Marjorie V. Harrington	Grade VII

CORPS OF TEACHERS—JANUARY 1, 1934

	1st. Appt.	Grade	Educated
Arthur E. Pierce	1931	Supt.	Mass. State College
HIGH			
*Channing H. Greene	1929	Science	Middlebury
Harry J. McMahon	1926	Science	Holy Cross
Robert V. Beals	1931	Science	Harvard
Elizabeth Wells	1932	Latin	Wheaton
Kathryn H. Finnegan	1922	French, Spanish	Middlebury
Weston H. Brockway	1932	Mathematics	Dartmouth
Alice Phinney	1928	English	Wheaton
Priscilla Drake	1928	History	Boston Univ.
Claudia Dube	1926	French	N. H. State
Thecla Fitzgerald	1926	English	Radcliffe
Apolline M. Aucoin	1920	Commercial	Wor. State Teachers
Frances Troy	1927	Commercial	Salem Teachers Col.
Mildren Rose	1932	Commercial	Salem Teachers Col.
Constance Coderre	1929	Commercial	Simmons
Persis Howe	1930	Commercial	Salem Teachers Col.
Ethel T. Kidd	1933	Commercial	Boston Univ.
Mary E. Meagher	1887	Civ., Geog., Bus. Ar.	
			Southbridge High
Helen M. Woodward	1930	English	Boston Univ.
Osborne B. Tabor	1932	Science and Math.	Clark Univ.
Clara E. Hefner	1933	English	Brown Univ.
Neil C. Robinson	1933	Science, History	Mass. State Col.

	1st Appt.	Grade	Educated
Cole Trade School			
*Clark H. Morrell	1931	Director	Boston Univ.
Nils Engstrom	1920	Electricity	Amherst A. C.
Lawrence Swenson	1932	Shop Inst.	Wentworth Institute
Emery Lavalley	1926	Drawing	Southbridge Voc.
Herman Persson	1927	Machinery	I. C. S., Scranton
Frank Olson	1929	Machinery	Mass. Inst. Tech.
Warren M. Switzer	1928	Woodworking	Gen. Electric
Herman M. Polley	1933	Auto Mechanic	Wentworth Inst.

MARCY STREET GRAMMAR

*Laura B. Desmarais	1922	VIII	St. Anne's Acad.
Julia Yott	1917	VIII	Fitchburg Teachers College
Grace B. Noyes	1923	VIII	Putnam High
Eva E. Poulin	1932	VIII	Wor. State Teachers
Hannah Bowden	1929	VII	Bridgewater Teachers College
Elizabeth Hall	1916	VII	Colby
Lenore Thompson	1932	VII	Gorham Teachers College
Marjorie V. Harrington	1933	VIII	Bridgewater Teachers College
Bertha Wallace	1922	VII	Hyannis Teachers College
Lucy M. Soldani	1932	VII	Boston Univ.
Celestine M. Carey	1932	Asst.	Our Lady of the Elms

MARCY STREET ELEMENTARY

*Mary L. Boardman	1891	II	Southbridge High
Bertha Foley	1912	III	Wor. State Teachers
Irene Gough	1914	IV	School of Dom. Science
Mary Chase	1906	III	Home School
Alice Wixted	1926	V	North Adams Nor.
Annie Marcy	1900	V	Wor. State Teachers
May Simpson	1911	IV	Wor. State Teachers
Laurenda Boyer	1928	V	Boston Univ.
Ruth Beck	1931	Asst.	Southbridge High

CENTRAL

*Blanche Harwood	1903	VI	Southbridge High
Mable Joy	1915	VI	Westfield Teachers College
Gabrielle Lanouette	1930	VI	Keene, N. H. Nor.

MECHANIC STREET

*Jennie Monroe	1905	VI	Bridgewater Teachers College
Julia Morrill	1914	III	St. Joseph Nor.
Evelyn G. Jackson	1933	II	Boston Univ.
Mabel Chamberlain	1902	I	Southbridge High

SCHOOL STREET

*Agnes Meagher	1886	IV	Southbridge High
Helen Ashton	1930	V	Fitchburg Teachers College
Mary Prendergast	1918	II-III	St. Mary's High
Jeannette Stone	1898	I	Southbridge High

RIVER STREET

*Anna Misiaszek	1931	I	Fitchburg Teachers College
Edith Randall	1920	II-III	Southbridge High
Corinne Beaudreau	1924	IV-V	Southbridge High
Ruth Sampson	1930	VI	Westfield Teachers College

FIRE STATION

*Marie J. Saunders	1924	V	West Chester Nor.
Marjorie D. Fitch	1933	VI	Bridgewater Teachers College

TOWN HALL SCHOOL

*Sylvia Claffin	1929	I	Westfield Teachers College
Helen Stowers	1933	II	Wheelock School

ELM STREET

Mary McCabe	1890	I	Quincy Training
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SANDERSDALE

Nathalie Morey	1933	I-II-III	Lowell Teachers College
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DENNISON

Stella Gay	1907	I-VI	Southbridge High
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LEBANON HILL

Pauline M. Roy	1923	I-V	Westfield Teachers College
Luise B. Corbin	1924	Dom. Science	Wheaton
Alice L. Atkins	1933	Dom. Science	Framingham St. Teachers
Joseph B. Lanza	1929	Manual Arts	Fitchburg Teachers College
Margaret G. Butler	1892	Supur. of Att.	Southbridge High
Rosalie L. McGrath	1926	Music Sup.	N. E. Conservatory

*—Principals

STATISTICS FROM SCHOOL REGISTERS

School Year Ending July 1, 1933

				Aver.		Aver. P. C.	
	Bys.	Gls.	Tot.	Mem.	Daily Att.	Mem. of Att.	
High School	244	332	576	575	510.55	533.33	95.193
High School VIII	20	17	37	37	34.25	35.92	95.504
High School VIII	19	16	35	35	33.14	34.43	96.235
High School VIII	19	14	33	33	28.95	29.74	97.354
High School VIII	18	17	35	35	33.16	34.35	96.390
High School VIII	16	18	34	34	29.01	30.12	96.312
High School VII	21	19	40	42	35.85	37.80	94.834
High School VII	17	21	38	38	36.34	37.66	96.498
High School VII	21	20	41	41	37.76	39.33	96.010
High School VII	15	23	38	39	37.80	38.93	97.104
High School VII	15	23	38	38	35.53	36.78	96.600
Engine House VI	15	24	39	42	37.41	38.71	96.649
River Street V & VI	24	20	44	44	39.82	41.58	93.446
Central Mills VI	19	20	39	45	37.95	39.62	95.780
Central Mills VI	21	17	38	42	38.29	39.92	95.922
Central Mills VI	20	21	41	42	38.63	40.42	95.566
Engine House V	22	20	42	42	36.88	38.25	96.400
Marcy Street V	25	22	47	48	42.46	45.01	94.341
Marcy Street V	25	23	48	48	45.49	47.08	96.622
Marcy Street V	20	28	48	48	45.28	46.88	96.592
River Street III & IV	18	23	41	41	36.13	37.47	96.379
School Street IV	15	22	37	37	34.05	35.31	96.480
Mechanic Street IV	22	18	40	42	38.70	39.54	97.890
Marcy Street IV	21	23	44	44	40.11	42.27	94.850
Marcy Street IV	24	20	44	45	43.68	43.54	95.750
School Street III	22	17	39	39	37.19	38.62	96.278
Mechanic Street III	13	28	41	44	40.49	41.86	96.745
Marcy Street III	19	17	36	36	34.33	35.52	96.250
Marcy Street III	15	23	38	38	32.08	33.70	95.133
Town Hall II	17	18	35	35	31.86	33.57	94.906

STATISTICS FROM SCHOOL REGISTERS

(Continued)

					Aver.		
	Bys.	Gls.	Tot.	Tot. Mem.	Daily Att.	Aver. Mem.	P. C.
River Street II	8	16	24	28	18.74	19.51	95.970
School Street II	12	10	22	26	20.77	22.09	94.060
Mechanic Street II	26	12	38	38	35.90	37.06	96.872
Marcy Street II	8	24	32	31	27.42	29.21	93.993
Elm Street I	17	13	30	35	29.57	31.78	93.040
Town Hall I	22	19	41	38	35.73	36.91	96.526
River Street I	23	12	35	36	31.80	32.31	97.556
School Street I	22	9	31	33	28.10	29.56	95.030
Mechanic Street I	15	18	33	39	30.91	32.75	94.564
Sandersdale I-II-III	9	9	18	19	18.92	19.51	96.885
Dennison District							
I-II-III-IV	10	5	15	15	14.17	14.51	97.670
Lebanon Hill I-V	9	8	17	17	14.47	14.98	96.600
	983	1079	2062	2104	1889.67	1967.54	95.925
Continuation School	17	63	80	80	31.36	33.13	90.97
Cole Trade School	163		163	163	91.71	98.79	94.12

ENROLLMENT BY AGE AND GRADE

October 1, 1932 — BOYS

Age

Grade	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Tl.
I	16	67	12	3														98
II		4	51	13	3	2	2	1										76
III			7	29	24	8	6	3		1								78
IV				11	44	19	16	4	1	3								98
V					5	40	24	20	12	5	1	1						108
VI						6	34	19	11	8	3	3						84
VII							13	28	22	15	11	1						90
VIII								12	33	29	14	2	1					91
IX								1	16	48	21	10	2					98
X									3	13	24	21	2	3				66
XI										4	11	18	11	3	1			48
XII											1	9	24	7	2			43
Total		16	71	70	56	76	75	95	88	98	126	86	65	40	13	3		978

ENROLLMENT BY AGE AND GRADE

October 1, 1932 — GIRLS

Age

Grade	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Tl.
I	22	56	4	1	1													84
II		17	49	14	1	3												84
III			7	56	32	7	4			2								108
IV				15	45	22	7	2	5	1								97
V					10	54	22	10	5	1								102
VI						11	38	26	13	8	1							97
VII							19	51	18	15	4	1						108
VIII								15	32	17	14	3	1					82
IX								3	22	46	24	9						104
X										20	32	16	3					71
XI										13	40	35	11	3			1	103
XII											1	9	18	11	1		1	41
Total	22	73	60	86	89	97	90	107	95	123	116	73	33	14	1	2		1081

SCHOOL SAVINGS

The following is the amount of deposits for the year ending October 31, 1933:

Marcy Street Elementary	\$1,075.41
Mechanic Street School	272.48
School Street School	566.55
Engine House School	229.87
River Street School	1,665.31
Marcy Street Grammar School	571.93
Dennison District School	56.15
Town Hall School	522.08
Central Mills School	293.49
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Total Deposits	\$5,253.27
Number enrolled depositors	536
Number of deposits	11,654
Transferred to pass books	\$3,768.73
Total Deposits to October 31, 1933	\$86,765.77
New books issued	85
Average deposits, 1932	\$11.61
Average deposits, 1933	\$9.80

MARY E. WELLS HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. A. Pierce,

Superintendent of Schools.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your request I hereby submit my fifth annual report as principal of the Mary E. Wells High School.

During the spring of 1933 possible program changes were studied and as a result a revised organization of work was adopted for the school year 1933-1934.

Required studies were reduced in number but a specific statement of necessary or recommended subjects in preparation for post-secondary work was incorporated in the "program of studies sheet" which was approved for the year. This was sent to all parents at the time the elective slips were made out for the current year's work. Although one or two subjects previously offered have been dropped from the curriculum all subjects essential for entrance to higher institutions have been retained.

In another attempt to decrease operating costs, the previous regulation of forming a class for five pupils has been amended so that no class is now formed for less than ten pupils.

At the time a study of possible program changes was carried on last spring, plans were made to provide for an enrollment of over seven hundred pupils. Three additional class rooms were equipped and three new members were added to the staff.

The expected enrollment was not reached but we have been able to use the additional rooms and teachers to very good advantage.

Possibly the outstanding gain has been that for the

first time for several years the freshmen have all been "housed" on one floor. In former years they have been placed on all three floors. The present plan should help to weld the class together as a group and certainly much time is saved which was formerly consumed in going from floor to floor during period changes.

TIME SCHEDULE

As a further result of curriculum study, we have changed our time schedule of a seven 38-minute period day to a six 52-minute period day.

To do this fifteen minutes were added to the length of each school day. This means a total of forty-five hours or approximately two weeks have been added to the former school year.

This longer recitation period is in accord with progressive educational practice which recommends this time unit to provide for a greater degree of individual instruction. I am glad to be able to report that several teachers are conducting their classes on this plan and in many cases improvements in scholarship have been noted.

We have been able to adjust teaching schedules in such a manner that both free hand and mechanical drawing are once more found in the curriculum. These classes are being offered to a limited number of pupils who have shown a real interest in that training.

The Crimson and Gray and Student Council have drawn upon these classes for cuts, posters and other illustrative material.

ORGANIZATIONS

The Crimson and Gray is an outstanding school organization which issues a quarterly publication concerned with school affairs. It has a staff of pupils which is chos-

en from those who have demonstrated their ability, fitness and interest in this type of work.

The Student Council is an elected body of twenty pupils chosen from all classes. Its functions are to serve as a connecting link between faculty and pupils, and to sponsor social gatherings from time to time.

The pupils look forward each year to the presentations of the Senior and Junior play and Operetta, because these events always carry an assurance of excellent presentation and student appeal.

The Athletic Department continues to function upon a high plane, and the pupils who receive the benefits of its training are fortunate. We look forward to the time when increased funds will make some sort of athletic training available to each member of the school.

NEEDS

Because of existing economic factors our enrollment will probably not decrease for a few years and therefore provision must be made for a peak enrollment.

For several years I have felt that a thorough testing of all pupils through the use of the most up-to-date measuring devices would be very valuable. The results of such tests would be of help to the teachers and the parents in discovering the needs of the pupils and working out corrective measures.

IMPROVEMENT OF TEACHERS IN SERVICE

Many teachers, at a considerable personal sacrifice, are carrying on a continuous plan of study both during the school year and in the summer months.

I believe that provisions should be made in the budget so that an added incentive will be given for this work for the values received will undoubtedly be reflected in better classroom teaching.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO PARENTS

Many parents seem to feel that apparently no home work is required under our present system, but the fact of the matter is that a minimum of ten hours of home study each week is necessary to even fair scholastic attainment.

Our percentage of attendance is not as high as it should be because pupils are continually absent from school because of some inadequate reason, and work lost through unexcused absence cannot be made up. Parents can perform a real service to the school and their children by keeping the attendance record as nearly correct as possible.

Our tardiness record is much too high. I believe that it indicates both carelessness on the part of the pupil and a failure of the parent to see to it that the pupil gets started on time, and greater co-operation in this matter would be very valuable.

When economic necessity demands that both parents must leave for the factory before school time, they should somehow drive home the fact that punctuality will be as valuable for the child as it is absolutely necessary for them.

OUR TASK OF GUIDANCE

The school is charged with the responsibility of instilling into the mind of each and every pupil ideals of good citizenship. This means that we must be awake to local, national and world-wide needs. History, which has been in the making so rapidly during the last few years, indicates very clearly that community affairs are going to be regulated on a world rather than upon a national basis. As the pupil of today will therefore be the world citizen of tomorrow we must teach more than ever before the underlying factors which are essential in a state

which recognizes the universal brotherhood of man and the mutual dependance of all.

We are therefore revising our program to intensify work in the social science branches and I am glad to see that that work is being chosen by an increasing number of pupils. Beginning September, 1934, I recommend that General Science and Civics be required of all pupils as foundation stones for their course of training in citizenship, and that the entire social science program including World History, Problems of Democracy, as well as a course in United States History and Government, which is already required by law, be elected and studied very carefully by all pupils in order that their civic training be as complete as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

CHANNING H. GREENE.

COLE TRADE SCHOOL

January 17, 1934

Mr. Arthur E. Pierce,
Superintendent of Schools,

Dear Sir:

This is a report of the affairs of the Cole Trade School for the calendar year 1933.

The Day School has been taxed constantly with the preparation of students for admission to the co-operative courses. The demand for machinists particularly exceeded the supply.

The institution of the Day School program in 1932 made it possible to have on hand a number of partly trained students who were immediately available when the influence of the NRA stimulated a demand for labor. Twenty-nine boys were transferred to the co-operative courses.

MEMBERSHIP AND ADJUSTMENTS

The following tabulation shows the various adjustments that were made during the year:

	Day	Co-op.	Tl.
Enrollment of students in school at end of year -----	44	55	99
Graduated -----	2	11	13
Withdrawals entering industry trained for -----	3	2	5
Withdrew to other occupations -----	22	3	25
Unfitted -----	6	3	9
Re-entered Grammar or High Schools	6	—	6

Moved from Town -----	—	—	—
Illness -----	2	—	2
Transfers to Co-operative School ----	29	—	29
Total Membership for year -----	114	74	188
Enrolled during the year -----			111

98.79

AUTOMOBILE REPAIR

A course in Automobile Repair was added to the curriculum in February. Mr. Herman M. Polley was appointed instructor.

There was an immediate response to the announcement and forty-one students have enrolled.

Four students have had co-operative work but were unable to remain because of the age limit which was established by the Reconstruction Code.

GRADUATION

The normal number of students were graduated with appropriate exercises at the Mary E. Wells High School Auditorium June 15, 1933.

The number of graduates by trades are tabulated as follows:

Moulder -----	1		
Machinists -----	8	Draftsmen -----	2
Cabinet Makers -----	2	Carpenters -----	1
Printer -----	1	Electrician -----	1

EVENING SCHOOL

The budget would not permit the opening of any Trade Extension Classes for the adult who desires to further his knowledge and practice in his trade.

BOYS' CONTINUATION SCHOOL

The Industrial Codes have caused a decrease in the number of Continuation School students who have been admitted to the Trade School for special training.

In order to enroll in the Continuation School a boy must now be engaged in agricultural or domestic work.

RECORD SEPTEMBER 1932 TO JUNE 1933

Membership at close of year -----	10
Graduated -----	9
Withdrawals entering industry trained for -----	3
Re-entered public school -----	1
Membership during year -----	23

Respectfully submitted,

COLE TRADE SCHOOL,

CLARK H. MORRELL,

Director

SOUTHBRIDGE CONTINUATION SCHOOL

January 10, 1934

Mr. Arthur E. Pierce,

Superintendent of Schools.

Dear Sir:

The total enrollment of the Girls' Division of the Southbridge Continuation School for the year ending June 21, 1933, was sixty-three. Of this number 22 girls were between 14 and 15 years of age; and 41 between 15 and 16 years.

The school was in session Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from one to five o'clock. Each girl attended one afternoon a week.

The first two hours were devoted to home making. This included sewing, cooking, home nursing and child care, taught in units of ten lessons. Miss Winifred King, school nurse, had charge of the latter courses which are of great practical value to the girls.

The clothing and food classes were taught by Miss Veronica Roycroft. In the former repairing, remodeling and cleansing old garments as well as constructing new ones; the foods course comprised meal planning, cooking, figuring cost and serving; dish washing, care of refrigerator and range, and laundry work was also part of this training.

As the girls enter at any time during the year and from any grade beyond the sixth and including senior high, the work must necessarily be on an individual progress plan. The academic subjects required are English, arithmetic, civics and hygiene. These are assigned as projects, each project containing 10 contracts. After a discussion of an assignment in a conference period the girls attack the project, working independently and progressing as rapidly as individual ability allows. Frequent consultations with the teacher occur and helpful suggestions are offered.

At the close of the school year last June, 34 girls received certificates for having successfully completed from 6 to 20 projects. Stasha Damien and Evelyn Lorranger, with all A's and B's, completed 20 projects each.

The placement work of the Continuation School is always important. Although all the girls are either employed or have home permits when they enter there are many changes during a year from one job to another or from home permit to some gainful occupation.

During the year ending in June, 1933, I received 24 calls from employers for our girls, the majority for mothers' helpers, and I filled 22 of those places. During July and August I placed 10 more girls.

The appended chart explains the distribution by occupations:

H. W. Co.	Clerk	Domestic Service	Home Permit	Miscellaneous
11	1 (Fruit & Confectionery)	24	22	1 waitress 1 hairdresser 1 dressmaker's assistant 1 office clerk 1 returned to Grade VIII
			Mothers dead, 5; Mothers ill, 10; Mothers working outside home, 5; Large family, 1; Farm, 1.	

The main objective of the Continuation School has ever been to help employed youth to make immediate and prospective adjustments (social, civic or economic) from their status as full time school pupils to that of responsible wage earning citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY E. MEAGHER

REPORT OF THE HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Arthur E. Pierce,

Superintendent of Schools:

Dear Sir:

The Home Economics course in our schools is carried on for five years beginning in the sixth grade and ending with the second year of High School.

The course is designed to give the pupils a complete elementary knowledge of food principles and clothing construction.

Simple constructive stitches are taught in grade six; useful articles such as holders, dish wipers and needle cases are made. The clothing work is continued in grade seven where the girls are instructed in the use of the sewing machine and the commercial pattern. A set of cotton underwear and cooking apron and band are made.

Greater emphasis is placed on home economic work in grade eight. The girls are given twenty weeks of foods work and twenty weeks of clothing construction. The general aims are:

- 1.—To develop in the girls a desire to assist in the preparing and serving of food.
- 2.—To enable them to make simple garments and assist in the selection and care of their clothes.

Most of the clothing construction in this unit is machine work. The articles made are negligees and pajamas.

Provision is also made in the Home Economics Department for a group of special students. The aim in this group is to develop in these girls a skill in hand

work which will enable them to become worthy members of the community. These girls come 1 2-3 hours per week for clothing and 1 2-3 hours per week for foods work.

The regular Domestic Science course in the High School is for freshmen only and is an elementary course in foods, meeting one double period a week.

The Household Arts course in the High School is a two year course and its aim is not only to equip the girl with the fundamental principles of home making but to teach her to interpret those principles and to apply them to her own environment.

The work includes the various fundamental occupations that contribute to the maintenance of the home. These include:

- 1.—The marketing, preparing and serving of meals.
- 2.—The buying, making and repairing of clothes, including a study of fabrics to make for more intelligent buying and laundering of clothes.
- 3.—The furnishing and care of the home.

Definite provision is made for Home project work, because this gives the girl an opportunity to apply her knowledge gained in the school to her home conditions.

A visit is made by the teacher to the home of each girl in the Household Arts course where we find the parents enthusiastic about their daughter's school work and most co-operative.

LOUISE B. CORBIN.

REPORT OF SCHOOL NURSE

Mr. Arthur E. Pierce,

Superintendent of Schools:

Dear Sir:

Our nineteen hundred and thirty-three program has been carried on as in previous years with some added activities.

The general health of the children has been good. There have been a few contagious diseases but no epidemics.

The School Physician has completed the physical examinations in the grades. All defects were noted and notices of same sent to the parents with recommendations that the family physician be consulted and his advice followed. Many corrections have already been made.

Dental cases head the list in number of defects, although this condition shows improvement each year.

Infected tonsils are less frequently met with than formerly, as most parents now realize the danger of allowing this condition to continue.

Skin infections are almost entirely eradicated.

We find numerous defects in posture. Improvement in this would be noticed only after a considerable time. Correct posture in our pupils can best be developed as soon as the pupil enters school. To do this work satisfactorily and efficiently a trained physical instructor is necessary, a position it is hoped the School Department will be able to finance soon.

To the Southbridge Woman's Club goes much credit for so very few under-nourished children, for through their very generous donation milk was provided for all those whose parents were unable to do so.

Defects of vision are also well taken care of either

by the parents or with the aid of interested welfare agencies for those whose parents are unable to finance.

The audiometer test was given in our schools for the first time, this year, and was very much worth while. Hearing is without doubt equally as important as vision as a means of acquiring knowledge. Children with serious defects of hearing are sometimes misunderstood by their teachers and erroneously classified as mentally backward. Deprived of the sense of hearing a **child suffers** inevitable handicaps. From the use of the audiometer in the school the following conclusions are drawn:

- 1.—All pupils previously known to have defective hearing were also revealed by this test.
- 2.—A number of children not previously known to be hard of hearing were found to have a hearing loss.
- 3.—Pupils handicapped by a hearing loss in one ear only were revealed by the test while not detected otherwise.
- 4.—Many border line cases were discovered that may be benefitted by being seated in advantageous positions in the classroom.
- 5.—Loss of hearing is detected at a time when remedial and preventive measures may be instituted with the greatest hope of success.

The report of the test follows:

Number pupils tested -----	1,914
Number referred for doctor's examination --	138

The following needy cases were taken care of during the year.

Eyes tested and glasses provided -----	8
Eyes tested and glasses not needed -----	1
Tonsils removed -----	4
Extensive dentistry -----	2

Clothing and shoes were provided for a number of cases.

One little girl who is deaf and dumb is very happy in a lip reading class in a Worcester day school, although placing her there (owing to opposition of her parents) entailed much work on the part of the Supervisor of Attendance, Nurse and other agencies.

It is interesting to note the gratitude of the parents, recently expressed for the great benefit the child is deriving from contact with this special class.

As in other years much time was spent in home visits. It is of special importance to note the cordial reception met with in visiting homes. Once a visit to the home by the Nurse meant notification of some physical defect in the child, or investigation of absence from school by supposed sickness. In recent years it is to bring a message of healthful living and to help create an atmosphere conducive to the practice of health habits by the child.

Respectfully submitted,

WINIFRED V. KING, R. N.

MANUAL ARTS WORK

Mr. A. E. Pierce,
Superintendent of Schools,
Southbridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Sir:—

I herewith submit the annual report of the Manual Arts Department for the year 1933.

Our main objective to give the boy exploratory experiences in as many fields as possible has been carried out to the fullest extent. Every boy has come in contact with various phases of woodwork, metal work, woodfinishing and mechanical drawing.

The past year was our first on the co-operative production plan and found us completing such products as lawn swings, lawn chairs, sleds and coaster wagons. We have endeavored to keep our products up to the commercial standard and have received many favorable comments as to their quality.

A most noteworthy fact was the use of photographs of our projects at the State Teachers' College Summer Session, at Fitchburg. Considerable comment was also made about the per capita cost of our department which is less than a dollar a year per boy. This has been accomplished only through our method of co-operative production, wherein all the boys work on the same projects. This method enables the boys to grow in abilities with the growth of the project.

Since September it has been possible, through Mr. Robinson, to give the seventh, eighth and High School grades a course in Mechanical Drawing which will in time be very closely correlated with all shop work. Very

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commendable work has been done and has shown a noticeable expansion.

The adoption of the departmental plan in the Grammar School has helped us tremendously in the building of a more evenly balanced program. The time will come, we hope, when the work may be so diversified that it will be upon an elective basis in the Grammar as well as the High School.

SPECIAL

The number of Specials increased so last year that it seemed advisable to divide the group into two classes. One section was composed of boys through the sixth grade and the other made up of boys from the seventh and eighth grades. Each group was given four periods a week in shop.

Many of the boys have now attended this class for two years and have shown a decided growth in adaptability, comprehension, and general educational background. Many of these boys have been brought back to the school circle through shop work and the responsibilities it demands of them. It is my firm belief that if a full time teacher had these boys a service would be rendered to society and to the boys. Not all of them are completely retarded and a special teacher trained for that type of pupil would find much to work with.

The past year has been an interesting one and has kept us completely absorbed with its many problems. Much help was given us by the Cole Trade School and we are very thankful for their many kindnesses.

We are grateful and thankful to you for your unstinting co-operation and help.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH B. LANZA.

REPORT OF SCHOOL PHYSICIAN

January 23, 1934

Mr. Arthur E. Pierce,
Superintendent of Schools,
Southbridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I hereby submit my report for the year 1933:

Number of pupils examined in schools -----	2,138
Number of health certificates -----	432
Number of work certificates -----	44
Number given the Toxin Anti-Toxin -----	174
Number at Pre-School Clinic -----	50

DEFECTS AS FOLLOWS

Unvaccinated -----	10
Poor posture -----	52
Defective teeth -----	733
Poor nutrition -----	12
Defects of tonsils -----	101
Disease of scalp -----	10
Impaired heart -----	7
Defects of spine and feet -----	8

All schools were visited at least once during the month and when called.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. SIMPSON, M. D.,

School Physician

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF ATTENDANCE

Mr. Arthur E. Pierce,
Superintendent of Schools.

Dear Sir:

The report which follows is the nineteenth presented by the Attendance Department.

The work of the Attendance Department is the oldest service in school programs. It is now designed primarily to supplement and make more effective the instruction and training of the classroom, and indirectly contributes in a large measure toward conservation of the rights of children.

This department deals with the problems of enrollment, conduct, absence, tardiness, street trades, and employment of all minors. It maintains a continuous census and investigates other incidental problems.

The supervisor of attendance must be liaison officer between children in trouble and a source of help; must approach the truant child with the attitude of a scientist, not a dictator.

The permanent Honor Attendance Banners given for the highest percent of attendance during the school year of 1932-1933 were awarded to:

Grade I—River Street	-----	Miss Ellis
Grade II—Mechanic Street	-----	Miss Claflin
Grade III—Mechanic Street	----	Miss Morrill
Grade IV—Mechanic Street	----	Mrs. Monroe
Grade V—Engine House	-----	Miss Saunders
Grade VI—Engine House	----	Miss LaFerriere
Grade VII—Marcy Grammar	--	Miss Wallace
Grade VIII—Marcy Grammar	----	Miss Yott

The statistical report follows:

REGISTRATION OF MINORS

Persons 5 years of age or over, and under 7 -----	473
Persons 7 years of age or over, and under 14 -----	2,186
Persons 14 years of age or over, and under 16 ----	678
Illiterate minors 16 years of age or over and under 21 -----	44

INVESTIGATION OF ABSENCES

Number of cases investigated for grades in public and private schools -----	1,180
The above absences were caused by illness of children, illness in the child's family, legiti- mate excuses, lack of necessary clothing, con- tagious disease, and truancy.	
Cases investigated for home permits -----	25
Cases investigated for Immigration authorities ..	4
Cases concerning street trades -----	29
Cases reported to Supervisor of Attendance not found, left town, or removed elsewhere in town	6
Number of children found at home between the ages 14-16 -----	5
Excused from attendance by physician -----	5
Cases of persistent tardiness -----	15
Cases of misconduct on streets, in stores and in school -----	25
Cases investigated for Continuation School -----	20
Number of visits to schools, public and private --	603
Cases of children working unlawfully -----	37
Follow up and friendly visits ----	15
Number of disease notifications received from Board of Health, referred to School Nurse and principals of schools -----	39
Individual conferences with pupils—behavior problems -----	39

Number of milk lunches furnished needy children (Cole Fund) -----	200
Number of families assisted by clothing, etc. ----	31
Number of children between ages of 14 and 16 for whom employment was found -----	3

PUPILS TRANSFERRED

Number of pupils moved into Southbridge during school session -----	76
Number of pupils moved from Southbridge during school session -----	44
Number of pupils transferred from private schools to public schools in town during school sessions	11
Number of pupils transferred from public schools to private schools in town during school session	4
Number of pupils transferred from public schools to public schools during school sessions -----	61

EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES ISSUED

Educational, 16-21 literate -----	673
Educational 16-21 illiterate -----	29
Educational, temporary -----	3
Employment between 14-16 -----	47
Home permits -----	19
Newsboys' badges -----	31
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Total number of certificates issued -----	802

Respectfully submitted,

MARGARET G. BUTLER.

